

## SHELF-LIFE PROGRAM

**General:** Shelf-Life items are managed and stored in accordance with the policies contained in DOD 4140.27-M, Shelf-Life Management Manual. Shelf life is the total period of time beginning with the date of the manufacture/cure/assembly/pack that an item may remain in the combined wholesale (including manufacturer) and retail storage system and still remain suitable for issue/use by the end user. Shelf life is not to be confused with service-life, which is a general term used to quantify the average or mean life of an item while in use. A shelf-life item is an item of supply having deteriorative or unstable characteristics to the degree that a storage time period must be assigned to ensure that it will perform satisfactorily while in service. There are two types of shelf-life items. A Type I Shelf-Life Item is an individual item of supply which is determined through an evaluation of technical test data and/or actual experience to be an item with a definite nonextendable period of shelf-life. A Type II Shelf-Life Item is an individual item of supply that may be extended after completion of inspection, test and restorative action. Shelf-life codes and shelf-life time periods are identified in Appendix A of DOD 4140.27-M and are listed below:

SHELF-LIFE PERIOD	TYPE I	TYPE II	SHELF-LIFE PERIOD	TYPE I	TYPE II
Non-deteriorative			27 months	N	N/A
1 month	A	N/A	30 months	P	N/A
3 months	B	N/A	36 months	Q	7
6 months	C	1	48 months	R	8
9 months	D	N/A	60 months	S	9
12 months	E	N/A	72 months	I	
18 months	F	2	84 months	T	
24 months	G	3	96 months	U	
36 months	H	4	108 months	V	
48 months	J	N/A	120 months	W	
60 months	K	5	132 months	Y	
72 months	L	N/A	144 months	Z	
84 months	M	6	156 months	X	